

## Cal State LA Resolution on Proposed GE Changes by the ASCSU GE Task Force

WHEREAS The mission of a general education program is to create a common intellectual experience that prepares students for a rich and satisfying life and helps them discover the connections among various fields of knowledge while fostering an appreciation of the natural world and the many diverse expressions of human imagination and ingenuity, today and in the past; and

WHEREAS Proposed revisions in the General Education program in the CSU system should preserve and enhance that mission based on consultation with and inclusion of CSU faculty in relevant disciplines; and

WHEREAS The General Education Task Force (GETF), in its preparation of its “Recommendations for GE Review and Reform,” failed to consult in an appropriate manner with CSU faculty; and

WHEREAS The GETF proposal states that GE requirements have not been updated in over 50 years, thus ignoring how they are updated regularly by individual campuses and were updated at CSULA as part of semester conversion (with further updates mandated by the recent slate of executive orders, and how implementing these changes have exhausted our faculty;); and

WHEREAS The GETF report cites “mounting concerns about the erosion of confidence in the value of higher education, higher costs of education borne increasingly by students, attenuated times to degree completion, and low persistence rates,” but fails to provide any evidence showing how these concerns are tied to the current GE requirements, and fails to explain how the new recommendations will solve any of the mentioned problems; and

WHEREAS The proposed GETF vision makes further cuts to the humanities and social sciences, including to American Institutions and other areas essential to a well-rounded education and civic engagement (during a time when there is widespread acceptance that the American citizenry is inadequately informed about politics, policy, and social issues); and

WHEREAS Some recommendations of the task force (e.g. reductions to the American Institutions requirements and the prohibition on double counting, among others) are likely to be deeply divisive and are unlikely to be broadly supported.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Academic Senate of CSU Los Angeles recommends that the Academic Senate of CSU reject the General Education Task Force report as a violation of the tenets of genuine shared governance, implementation of which would infringe upon faculty curricular authority; and be it further

RESOLVED That any changes in the requirements for General Education in the CSU must be developed thoughtfully, and with full and broad consultation with the ASCSU and all of the campus Senates of the CSU; and be it further

RESOLVED That the Chancellor's office must respect the curriculum development and revision processes on campuses by allowing an appropriate implementation timeline for any GE changes; and be it further

RESOLVED That any processes or changes in the curriculum of any CSU campus must be faculty driven. The mechanisms by which the General Education requirements in the CSU are developed and modified must go through campus shared governance processes and must respect the role of the faculty at each campus in the development and modification of curriculum.